

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 /071 W

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O R 011340Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL OPORTO
COMUSFORAZ
USCINCEUR
CINCLANT
SECSTATE WASHDC 1408

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 0082

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: STATUTE OF AUTONOMY SENT TO REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

GENERAL MAGALHAES ANNOUNCED ON FEBRUARY 27 THAT THE COUNCIL OF

MINISTERS HAD DECIDED THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL NATURE OF THE STATUTE
OF
AUTONOMY WAS BEYOND THE AUTHORITY OF THAT COUNCIL. NATALINO
VIVEIROS, PPD DEPUTY TOLD ME THAT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD SENT THE
STATUTE TO THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT IT
BE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED. VIVEIROS CONSIDERED THIS A VICTORY FOR
THE AZORES. A JUNTA SOURCE SAID THAT PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO FAVORS

APPROVAL OF THE STATUTE.

2. THE LOCAL PRESS HAS REPORTED A NUMBER OF STATEMENTS BY JAIME GAMA,
PS DEPUTY FROM PONTA DELGADA, IN WHICH HE SAID, INTER ALIA, THE
STATUTE WAS NOTHING BUT AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN FLA, THE CDS, AND THE
PPD;THE STATUTE SHOULD NOT BE APPROVED BY THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL,
BUT BY THE FUTURE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, AND THE ATTEMPT TO GAIN
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APPROVAL BY THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL IS AN ANTI-DEMOCRATIC MANEUVER

WHICH ENDANGERS NATIONAL UNITY. THE PS IN THE HORTA DISTRICT HAS
ISSUED

A COMMUNIQUE DEMANDING THAT JAIME GAMA PERSONALLY GO THERE AND
EXPLAIN HIS POSITION. THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE PS
IN THE ANGRA DISTRICT IS ALSO UNHAPPY WITH GAMA'S POSITION ON THE
STATUTUE.

COMMENT:

IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THE STATUTE HAS PASSED THE HURDLE OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MANY AZOREANS ARE WORRIED THAT IT WILL NOT
BE APPROVED. AS A RESULT THERE IS ALREADY TALK THAT ACTIONS MUST
BE PLANNED TO FORCE GOP APPROVAL. JAIME GAMA'S STATEMENTS HAVE
ENCOURAGED PESSIMISM AND HAVE FURTHER DAMAGED THE ALREADY WEAKENED
PS IN THE AZORES.

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINT, PDEV, PO
To: LISBON
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